

badge, service ribbon, lapel button, or insignia to misrepresent the identification or status of the person by whom such is worn is prohibited. Any person who violates the provision of this section is subject to punishment as prescribed in the statutes referred to in § 507.5 of this part.

(b) Mere possession by a person of any of the articles prescribed in § 507.8 of this part is authorized provided that such possession is not used to defraud or misrepresent the identification or status of the individual concerned.

(c) Articles specified in § 507.8 of this part, or any distinctive parts including suspension ribbons and service ribbons) or colorable imitations thereof, will not be used by any organization, society, or other group of persons without prior approval in writing by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force.

#### Subpart D—Heraldic Quality Control Program

##### § 507.13 General.

The heraldic quality control program provides a method of ensuring that insignia items are manufactured with tools and specifications provided by TIOH.

##### § 507.14 Controlled heraldic items.

The articles listed in § 507.8 of this part are controlled heraldic items and will be manufactured in accordance with Government specifications using Government furnished tools or cartoons. Tools and cartoons are not provided to manufacturers for the items in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section. However, manufacture will be in accordance with the Government furnished drawings.

(a) Shoulder loop insignia, ROTC, U.S. Army.

(b) Institutional SSI, ROTC, U.S. Army.

(c) Background trimming/flash, U.S. Army.

(d) U.S. Air Force organizational emblems for other than major commands.

(e) Hand embroidered bullion insignia.

##### § 507.15 Certification of heraldic items.

A letter of certification to manufacture each heraldic item, except those listed in § 507.14 (a) through (e) of this part, will be provided to the manufacturer upon submission of a preproduction sample. Manufacture and sale of these items is not authorized until the manufacturer receives a certification letter from TIOH.

##### § 507.16 Violations and penalties.

A certificate of authority to manufacture will be revoked by TIOH upon intentional violation by the holder thereof of any of the provisions of this part, or as a result of not complying with the agreement signed by the manufacturer in order to receive a certificate. Such violations are also subject to penalties prescribed in the Acts of Congress (§ 507.5 of this part). A repetition or continuation of violations after official notice thereof will be deemed prima facie evidence of intentional violation.

##### § 507.17 Procurement and wear of heraldic items.

(a) The provisions of this part do not apply to contracts awarded by the Defense Personnel Support Center for manufacture and sale to the U.S. Government.

(b) All Army and Air Force service personnel who wear quality controlled heraldic items that were purchased from commercial sources will be responsible for ensuring that the items were produced by a certified manufacturer. Items manufactured by certified manufacturers will be identified by a hallmark and/or a certificate label certifying the item was produced in accordance with specifications.

(c) Commanders will ensure that only those heraldic items that are of the quality and design covered in the specifications and that have been produced by certified manufacturers are worn by personnel under their command. Controlled heraldic items will be procured only from manufacturers certified by TIOH. Commanders procuring controlled heraldic items, when authorized by local procurement procedures, may forward a sample insignia to TIOH for quality assurance inspection if the

commander feels the quality does not meet standards.

**§ 507.18 Processing complaints of alleged breach of policies.**

The Institute of Heraldry may revoke or suspend the certificate of authority to manufacture if there are breaches of quality control policies by the manufacturer. As used in this paragraph, the term quality control policies include the obligation of a manufacturer under his or her "Agreement to Manufacture," the quality control provisions of this part, and other applicable instructions provided by TIOH.

(a) *Initial processing.* (1) Complaints and reports of an alleged breach of quality control policies will be forwarded to the Director, The Institute of Heraldry, 9325 Gunston Road, Room S-112, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5579 (hereinafter referred to as Director).

(2) The Director may direct that an informal investigation of the complaint or report be conducted.

(3) If such investigation is initiated, it will be the duty of the investigator to ascertain the facts in an impartial manner. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will submit a report to the appointing authority containing a summarized record of the investigation together with such findings and recommendations as may be appropriate and warranted by the facts.

(4) The report of investigation will be forwarded to the Director for review. If it is determined that a possible breach of quality control policies has occurred, the Director will follow the procedures outlined in paragraphs (b) through (g) of this section.

(b) *Voluntary performance.* The Director will transmit a registered letter to the manufacturer advising of the detailed allegations of breach and requesting assurances of voluntary compliance with quality control policies. No further action is taken if the manufacturer voluntarily complies with the quality control policies; however, any further reoccurrence of the same breach will be considered refusal to perform.

(c) *Refusal to perform.* (1) If the manufacturer fails to reply within a reasonable time to the letter authorized by paragraph (b) of this section, or refuses

to give adequate assurances that future performance will conform to quality control policies, or indicates by subsequent conduct that the breach is continuous or repetitive, or disputes the allegations of breach, the Director will direct that a public hearing be conducted on the allegations.

(2) A hearing examiner will be appointed by appropriate orders. The examiner may be either a commissioned officer or a civilian employee above the grade of GS-7.

(3) The specific written allegations, together with other pertinent material, will be transmitted to the hearing examiner for introduction as evidence at the hearing.

(4) Manufacturers may be suspended for failure to return a loaned tool without referral to a hearing specified in paragraph (c)(1) of this section; however, the manufacturer will be advised, in writing, that tools are overdue and suspension will take effect if not returned within the specified time.

(d) *Notification to the manufacturer by examiner.* Within a 7 day period following receipt by the examiner of the allegations and other pertinent material, the examiner will transmit a registered letter of notification to the manufacturer informing him or her of the following:

(1) Specific allegations.

(2) Directive of the Director requiring the holding of a public hearing on the allegations.

(3) Examiner's decision to hold the public hearing at a specific time, date, and place that will be not earlier than 30 days from the date of the letter of notification.

(4) Ultimate authority of the Director to suspend or revoke the certificate of authority should the record developed at the hearing so warrant.

(5) Right to—

(i) A full and fair public hearing.

(ii) Be represented by counsel at the hearing.

(iii) Request a change in the date, time, or place of the hearing for purposes of having reasonable time in which to prepare the case.

(iv) Submit evidence and present witnesses in his or her own behalf.